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In the Azov-Black Sea basins, fish catching and processing has been mechanized: pumps, hydraulic elevators, and apparatus for packing fish in barrels have been introduced. The new techniques will raise the speed of fish catching, shorten the time of unloading ships, and improve working conditions.(3)

New varieties of fish and crustaceans are now being commercially exploited.

Humpback salmon have appeared in basins of the Nizhne-Amur State Fish Trust and in Amur Bay. Fishermen have prepared fishing equipment and have organized their work on a 24-hour-a-day basis. Brigades from the De-Kastri Combine caught about 20 centners of humpback salmon in 2 days. Reports received from Cape Lazarev, Petrovskiy Spit, and Baydukov Island state that the first catches of salmon have been taken. Schools of humpback salmon have been noticed in commercial basins on the right banks of Amur Bay. The salmon fishing season has begun on the Amur River.  
(4)

Gray mullet is a new variety of commercial fish found in the Caspian Sea. From 1930 to 1934, fry of Black Sea gray mullet were transplanted to the Caspian Sea where they acclimatized quickly. By 1937, they were being caught commercially.

Until recently, the large reserves of gray mullet were being sparingly utilized since equipment for catching gray mullet was unsatisfactory.

During the last few years, gray-mullet fishing in the Black Sea has been developed. One of the newest pieces of equipment in use is a purse seine designed by fisherman V. M. Ovcharenko. This seine has increased the catch per seine from 141 centners (1947-48) to 240-390 (1949). The purse seine should be introduced into the Caspian Sea for catching gray mullet as well as other varieties of fish. The principal fish-canning industries of the central and southern Caspian Sea; the Ministry of Fish Industry Azerbaydzhan SSR, the Dagestan and Turkmen Fish Trusts, and the experimental station of the Main Administration of the Caspian Fish Industry (Glavkaspribprom) must cooperate in the utilization of purse seines. The Caspian Branch of the All-Union Scientific Research Institute of the Marine Fish Economy must assist these organizations. Gray mullet industries must be developed along the coast of the Caspian Sea.

The Azerbaydzhan Union of Fishing Kolkhozes (Azrybkolkhozsoyuz) and the Ministry of Fish Industry Azerbaydzhan SSR must take strong measures to develop purse-seine catching of gray mullet in fishing kolkhozes and in herring canneries.  
(5)

In Kazakhstan SSR, a large-scale mussel industry is being developed in Ussuriy Bay. The two valuable edible mussels caught are sea combs and midiya (*Mytilus galloprovincialis* Lamark), whose dried meat is widely marketed and whose shells are used for preparing mineral feed meal. Up to now, commercial exploitation of these two mussels was undeveloped and unorganized; underwater scoops were the principal means of catching them. At present, the mussel industry has two flotillas and is progressing successfully.(6)

Another fairly recent development in the fish industry has been the construction of a new fish trust on the Black Sea for catching dolphins and other fish. Plans have also been made to construct mechanized fish plants in Anapa, Gelendzhik, Tuapse, and Adler.(7)

- 2 -

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SECRET

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Sources

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- 3 -

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